Short term production credit to farmers

3585. SHRIMATI BRINDA KARAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of farmers who have received benefit of short term production credit at 7 per cent interest;

(b) what is the percentage compared to total amount of rural credit; and

(c) whether Government propose to extend the 7 per cent interest benefit for farmers taking longer term production loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) According to data regarding number of accounts[1] as given by public sector banks in their claims submitted for reimbursement, the banks had claimed reimbursement in respect of 1,38,59,450 accounts up to the quarter ended December, 2006. Presently the data regarding number of accounts for Regional Rural Banks and Cooperative Banks are not available.

(b) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table on the House.

(c) Loans upto a maximum duration of 18 months are categorised as Short Term Productions loans, which are available to farmers at 7% upto a principal amount of Rs. 3 lakh.

Disbursement of funds to States under FRF

†3586. SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of States which have achieved prescribed norms and have been disbursed with full amount of funds for five years under Fiscal Reforms Facility;

(b) the names of such States; and

(c) the reasons for non-release of incentive funds earned by the executing States and by when it is proposed to be released by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL): (a) to (c) Eleventh Finance Commission

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.